

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Original): A sense oligoribonucleotide, an antisense oligoribonucleotide or a double stranded RNA comprising said sense and antisense oligoribonucleotides, wherein the sense oligoribonucleotide is substantially identical to less than 23 contiguous nucleotides of the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 (human StAR binding protein gene) and contains bases 187-205 or 474-494 of SEQ ID NO: 1.

Claim 2 (Original): The sense oligoribonucleotide, the antisense oligoribonucleotide or the double stranded RNA comprised thereof as in claim 1, wherein said oligoribonucleotide is bases 187-205 or 474-494 of SEQ ID NO: 1.

Claim 3 (Currently amended): A method for inhibiting expression of SBP gene in cancer cells, comprising introducing into cancer cells the sense oligoribonucleotide, the antisense oligoribonucleotide or the double stranded RNA comprised thereof as in claim 1 [[or 2]].

Claim 4 (Currently amended): A kit for cancer therapy comprising 1) the sense oligoribonucleotide, the antisense oligoribonucleotide or the double stranded RNA comprised thereof as in claim 1 [[or 2]] and 2) a means to introduce into cancer cells the sense oligoribonucleotide, the antisense oligoribonucleotide or the double stranded RNA comprised thereof.